

## CITY OF LIBERTY, SOUTH CAROLINA OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Erica Romo Woods, Mayor

May 24, 2023

The Honorable Henry McMaster State House 1100 Gervais Street Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Dear Governor McMaster:

Thank you and our great State of South Carolina for the assistance with the City of Liberty's broadband infrastructure.

Currently, the City of Liberty is underserved in broadband. This became glaringly evident, during the pandemic shut down. The students in our rural community struggled to do their online schooling, due to the constant buffering caused by the lack of enough broadband width. Our businesses are also negatively impacted by our broadband situation. We are working on economic development and know that our current broadband will have an adverse effect on our economic growth. Our citizens and business owners have expressed how this has limited productivity in so many areas of their lives that are dependent on internet access.

With all that said, the State's monetary assistance will go toward broadband infrastructure in the City of Liberty. Having faster and more reliable internet access will help the City of Liberty attract and retain businesses, as well as increase jobs and population growth. Broadband has become a necessity in life. Increasing our broadband width will improve productivity within our schools, businesses, churches, and homes. It will improve our quality of life.

We greatly appreciate your investment in the lives of the people of the City of Liberty, South Carolina.

For the love of Liberty,

Erica Romo Woods

Mayor

Liberty, SC